Mapping Playbook - Selected Discussion Items

2020 CRC - from DRAFT 1.2 (2021.09.11)

Goal: A full set of mapping policies and strategies in place before actual mapping work begins

- 1. **Population Data:** All mapping will be based exclusively on Statewide Database's Official 2021 California Redistricting Database
- 2. Ranked Statutory Criteria (California Constitution, Article XXI, §2)
 - a. Equal Population
 - b. **VRA compliance**: . . . make a good-faith effort to meet Section 5 non-retrogression standards (even though not currently enforced)
 - c. **Contiguity** . . . will never use point contiguity
 - d. Communities of Interest (COIs)
 - i. Current state and local election districts generally reflect relevant COIs but are not otherwise included in statutory considerations; we will vary how much to consider existing districts on a case-by-base basis depending on factors such as population shifts, COI input, and VRA considerations
 - Ii. Where different COI input viewpoints are in opposition, generally give greater weight to those that:
 - Aid in satisfying other statutory criteria, especially higher-ranked ones
 - Seem to represent a larger segment of a community
 - More closely fit the statutory COI definition
 - Are given by someone actually in that COI
 - lii. Sheer quantity of input on a given COI is difficult to weigh; COI submissions are not votes but rather aids to identify and define COIs; therefore, quantities (whether many or few) should be duly considered but are not decisive
 - iv. It may be helpful to supplement COI testimony with CRC research into demographic, economic, historic, land-use, and other data (though note that such data are very often unhelpfully dated and/or approximated), and perhaps in-person visits; COI testimony alone may not be sufficient to define a given COI
 - e. Compactness
 - f. **Nesting**
- 3. Mapping Sequence:
 - a. VRA districts (Congressional, Assembly, and Senate) first draft maps?
 - b. Assembly districts, working generally north to south
 - c. Senate districts
 - d. BOE districts
 - e. Congressional districts
- **4. Mapping Process** [Please refer to the separate Line Drawing Phases plan]
- 5. General principles